

WE CLAIM:

1. A sewing apparatus having a cassette mount to which a thread
cassette having a thread accommodating section for accommodating a
5 thread supply is detachably attached, the sewing apparatus comprising:

at least one detector detecting an operating state of at least one
mechanism related with the thread cassette;

a determining unit determining whether the thread cassette can be
attached to the cassette mount, based on a result of detection by the
10 detector; and

an informing unit informing a result of determination by the
determining unit.

2. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a
15 threading mechanism for passing, through a hole of a sewing needle, a
thread drawn from the thread cassette attached to the cassette mount,
wherein the detector includes a threading detector detecting a state of a
mechanism affecting executability of a threading operation by the
threading mechanism, and when the thread can be passed through the hole
20 of the needle, the determining unit determines that the thread cassette can
be attached to the cassette mount, based on a result of detection by the
threading detector.

3. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a
25 needle bar vertically moving mechanism for moving the needle bar
vertically, wherein the detector includes a needle bar vertical position
detector detecting a vertical position of the needle bar, and when the
needle bar is at a predetermined vertical position, the determining unit

determines that the thread cassette can be attached to the cassette mount, based on a result of detection by the needle bar vertical position detector.

4. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a
5 needle bar rocking mechanism rocking the needle bar, wherein the
detector includes a zigzag position detector detecting a zigzag position of
the needle bar, and when the needle bar is at a predetermined zigzag
position, the determining unit determines that the thread cassette can be
attached to the cassette mount, based on a result of detection by the
10 zigzag position detector.

5. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a
thread tensioning mechanism adjusting a thread tension of the thread
drawn from the thread cassette, wherein the detector includes a thread
15 tension detector detecting an open or closed state of the thread tensioning
mechanism, and when the thread tensioning mechanism is open, the
determining unit determines that the thread cassette can be attached to
the cassette mount, based on a result of detection by the thread tension
detector.

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6. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a
needle bar rocking mechanism, a thread tensioning mechanism adjusting a
tension of the thread drawn from the thread cassette, and a single driving
mechanism driving both needle bar rocking mechanism and thread
25 tensioning mechanism, wherein the detector includes a zigzag position
detector detecting a zigzag position of the needle bar and a thread tension
detector detecting an open or closed state of the thread tensioning
mechanism, and the zigzag position of the needle bar and the open or

closed state of the thread tensioning mechanism are detected on the basis of a drive amount of the driving mechanism.

5 7. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a sewing machine motor, a bobbin, a bobbin thread winding shaft on which the bobbin is mounted and a bobbin thread winding mechanism transmitting a driving force of the sewing machine motor to the bobbin thread winding shaft so that a bobbin thread is wound on the bobbin, wherein the detector includes a thread winding detector detecting an operating state of the
10 bobbin thread winding mechanism, and when the bobbin thread winding mechanism is in operation, the determining unit determines that the thread cassette can be attached to the cassette mount, based on a result of detection by the thread winding detector.

15 8. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the informing unit is provided with a display unit displaying whether the thread cassette can be attached to the cassette mount, and the display unit is disposed near the cassette mount.

20 9. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising a cassette detector detecting the thread cassette having been attached to the thread cassette, wherein the informing unit stops informing that the thread cassette can be attached, when attachment of the thread cassette to the cassette mount has been detected by the cassette detector.

25 10. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the informing unit is provided with a lamp unit which changes a color of light, thereby informing whether the thread cassette can be attached to the cassette

mount.

11. A sewing apparatus according to claim 10, further comprising a cassette detector detecting the thread cassette having been attached to the thread cassette, wherein the informing unit turns off the lamp when attachment of the thread cassette to the cassette mount has been detected by the cassette detector.

12. A sewing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the informing unit informs whether the thread cassette can be attached to the cassette mount, by means of a character message.

13. An informing control program for a sewing apparatus including a cassette mount to which a thread cassette having a thread accommodating section for accommodating a thread supply is detachably attached and at least one detector detecting an operating state of at least one mechanism related with the thread cassette, the program informing, on a computer, whether the thread cassette can be attached to the cassette mount, the program accomplishing the functions of:

a determining unit determining whether the thread cassette can be attached to the cassette mount, based on a result of detection by the detector; and

an informing unit informing a result of determination by the determining unit.